

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

YUSEF WASHINGTON,

Petitioner,

v.

KATHY BRITTAIN, et al.,

Respondents.

CIVIL ACTION

NO. 20-4303-KSM

ORDER

AND NOW this 21st day of November, 2022, upon consideration of the Report and Recommendation of the Honorable Timothy R. Rice (the “R&R”) (Doc. No. 44), Petitioner’s Objections to the R&R (Doc. No. 45), Respondents’ opposition brief (Doc. No. 49), and Petitioner’s reply brief (Doc. No. 50), it is **ORDERED** as follows:

1. The Report and Recommendation is **APPROVED** and **ADOPTED**.
2. The Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus is **DENIED WITH PREJUDICE**.
3. There is no probable cause to issue a certificate of appealability.¹
4. The Clerk of Court shall mark this case **CLOSED**.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

/s/Karen Spencer Marston

KAREN SPENCER MARSTON, J.

¹ Because jurists of reason would not debate the procedural or substantive dispositions of Petitioner’s claims, no certificate of appealability should be granted. *See Slack v. McDaniel*, 529 U.S. 473, 484 (2000) (“Where a district court has rejected the constitutional claims on the merits, the showing required to satisfy § 2253(c) is straightforward: The petitioner must demonstrate that reasonable jurists would find the district court’s assessment of the constitutional claims debatable or wrong. . . . When the district court denies a habeas petition on procedural grounds without reaching the prisoner’s underlying constitutional claim, a COA should issue when the prisoner shows, at least, that jurists of reason would find it debatable whether the petition states a valid claim of the denial of a constitutional right and that jurists of reason would find it debatable whether the district court was correct in its procedural ruling.”).